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PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 03495.0194 01000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
)	
MAVROMARA et al.)	Group Art Unit: 1636
)	
Application No.: 10/664,038)	Examiner: James S. Ketter
)	
Filed: September 17, 2003)	Confirmation No. 3906
)	
For: NUCLEIC ACIDS AND NEW)	
POLYPEPTIDES ASSOCIATED)	
WITH AND/OR OVERLAPPING)	
WITH HEPATITIS C VIRUS CORE)	
GENE PRODUCTS)	

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In a restriction requirement mailed June 7, 2005, the Examiner required an election under 35 U.S.C. § 121 between the following groups of claims:

Group I: Claims 10-22, 33, 40 and 41, drawn to purified polypeptide, antibody specific therefor and the combination thereof, classified in class 530, subclasses 350 and 387.1;

Group II: Claims 34-38, drawn to detection or diagnostic methods using antibodies to core+1 polypeptide, classified in class 435, subclass 7.1; or

Group III: Claim 42, drawn to a nucleic acid detection method, classified in class 435, subclass 6.

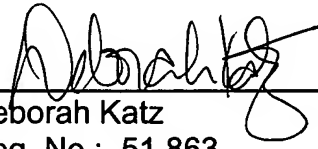
Applicants provisionally elect to prosecute Group I, including claims 10-22, 33, 40 and 41, drawn to purified polypeptide, antibody specific therefor and the combination thereof.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: June 30, 2005

By: 
Deborah Katz
Reg. No.: 51,863
Telephone: 202.408.4382
Facsimile: 202.408.4400
e-mail: deborah.katz@finnegan.com